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3 January 1983
MJN-8301

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Jordan Bureau--December 1982

I. GENERAL

A New Year's Day snow storm in Jordan dumped several inches onto the poorly prepared city of Amman, leaving traffic snarled and complicating the Bureau's afternoon shift change. After several phone calls to find a substitute for a monitor who lives in a remote part of town, the bureau chief made good use of his four-wheel-drive POV to bring the relief shift to the office. The Embassy motor pool, which has several four-wheel-drive vehicles of its own, got its act together in time to take the evening shift home after COB and to pick up the day shift the following morning.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

In light of the renewed interest in the Palestinian issue following the President's 1 September Middle East initiative, Jordan Bureau has expanded its filing from the West Bank Arabic press in recent months. At the same time, the Bureau has sought ways of reducing the lag in receipt of the newspapers, which have traditionally come once a week by pouch from the Consulate in Jerusalem. Although these papers cannot circulate normally here, they are available to the Government of Jordan through an exchange across the Jordan River bridge carried on by the mixed armistice commission. The Bureau managed to tap into that system in December through the efforts of Chief Monitor [redacted] arranged with the head of the Jordanian Press and Publications Bureau to borrow copies of its West Bank papers long enough to scan them and xerox items of interest. Unfortunately, the new arrangement has not proved productive to date. Deliveries of the papers to the Press and Publications Bureau are only slightly better than our own, and although we believe all of the West Bank papers are available to them, they are willing to loan only the pro-Jordanian newspaper AL-QUDS. STAT

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B. Communications

1. To minimize downtime in the event of failure of the main communications relays, spare relays for both the send and receive circuits have been installed in the communications room, along with a switching unit that will enable the operators to switch quickly and easily from the mains to the spares. The Bureau's underground backup send and receive lines [redacted] have also been connected to the new switching unit, enabling the operators to switch easily if there is trouble with the overhead line to the Embassy. Jacks for making an in-room loop that includes all equipment have also been added to the new switching unit. STAT

2. On 5 December, Jordan instituted direct international dialing from telephones in Amman and three other major towns. Previously, international calls had to be placed through an operator, and this usually involved a long wait for the call to go through. The direct dialing system now makes it practical for the duty editor to call the Wire Service duty officer or vice versa should the need arise. For incoming calls to the bureau, the bureau's phone number is: [redacted] STAT

III. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

Arabic monitor trainee [redacted] entered on duty on 26 December, bringing the number of monitors on board to 10. To fill the last opening in the Bureau T/O, an ad was run in all of the local papers during the week before Christmas in the hope that it would be seen by students home from universities for the semester break and by educated workers home from the Gulf for the holidays. Over 100 responses have been received, including a dozen or so that appear promising. STAT STAT

[redacted]

Chief, Jordan Bureau

Attachment:

Production Report

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JORDAN BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1982

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 129,000
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 81,500
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH: 637

II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:

	BROAD-CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI-CATIONS
(MINUTES OR ISSUES PER WEEK)	5685	19875	60

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:

(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER MONTH)

BAHRAIN			
MANAMA WAKH IN			
ARABIC		0	
CLANDESTINE (IRAN AND IRAQ)			
(CLANDESTINE) VOICE OF IRAQI KURDISTAN IN			
ARABIC	100		
(CLANDESTINE) VOICE OF IRAQI PEOPLE IN			
ARABIC	0		
(CLANDESTINE) VOICE OF IRAQI REVOLUTION IN			
ARABIC	0		
FRANCE			
PARIS AL-MUSTAQBAL IN			
ARABIC			2000
PARIS AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI IN			
ARABIC			100
IRAQ			
BAGHDAD VOICE OF THE MASSES IN			
ARABIC	1850		
BAGHDAD VOICE OF PLO IN			
ARABIC	14950		
BAGHDAD DOMESTIC SERVICE IN			
ARABIC	5560		
BAGHDAD INA IN			
ARABIC		17360	
BAGHDAD INA IN			
ENGLISH		0	
BAGHDAD AL-JUMHURIYAH IN			
ARABIC			0
BAGHDAD ATH-THAWRAH IN			
ARABIC			0
ISRAEL			
JERUSALEM IN			
ARABIC TO THE ARAB WORLD	1950		
JERUSALEM AL-FAJR IN			
ARABIC			520
JERUSALEM AL-MITHAQ IN			
ARABIC			0
JERUSALEM AL-QUDS IN			
ARABIC			280
JERUSALEM ASH-SHA'B IN			
ARABIC			420
JERUSALEM AT-TALI'AH IN			
ARABIC			1180
JORDAN			
AMMAN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN			
ARABIC	9400		
AMMAN DOMESTIC TELEVISION SERVICE IN			
ARABIC	1810		
AMMAN DOMESTIC TELEVISION SERVICE IN			
ENGLISH	160		
AMMAN PETRA-JNA IN			
ARABIC		2770	
AMMAN AD-DUSTUR IN			
ARABIC			5720
AMMAN AKHBAR AL-USBU' IN			
ARABIC			160
AMMAN AR-RA'Y IN			
ARABIC			3500
AMMAN JERUSALEM STAR IN			
ENGLISH			1480
AMMAN JORDAN TIMES IN			
ENGLISH			1880
MONACO			
PARIS RADIO MONTE CARLO IN			
ARABIC	15130		
SUDAN			
KHARTOUM SUNA IN			
ARABIC		7400	
KHARTOUM SUNA IN			
ENGLISH		450	
SYRIA			
DAMASCUS DOMESTIC SERVICE IN			
ARABIC	21700		
DAMASCUS DOMESTIC TELEVISION SERVICE IN			
ARABIC	3260		
DAMASCUS SANA IN			
ARABIC		7470	
UNITED KINGDOM			
LONDON REUTER IN			
ENGLISH		520	

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